

III. REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 12 and 40 are amended. Claims 1, 8,9,13,29,36 and 37 are cancelled. Claims 2-7, 10, 30-35, and 38 are amended. Claims 2-7 and 10 are amended to be dependent on claim 12. Claims 30-35 and 38 are amended to be dependent on claim 40. Claims 2-7,10, 12, 30-35,38, and 40 remain in this application

Claim 27 is allowed.

Applicant submits that the rejections contained in the subject office action are now moot in view of the amendments submitted above.

Applicant has amended claim 12 to include the limitations of claim 1 and the intervening limitations of claims 8 and 9, Claim 40 is amended to include the limitations of claim 29 and the intervening claims 36 and 37. According to discussions with the Examiner, Applicant submits that this is consistent with the Examiner's statement of allowable subject matter.

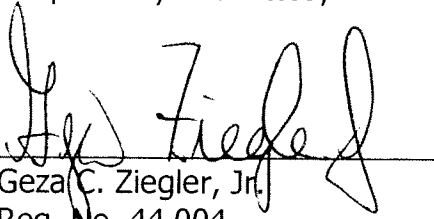
Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of \$570 for a three-month extension of time (\$1020 less the payment of \$450 made on 21 August 2006) as well as any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

10/690,934

Response to Office Action mailed March 28, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

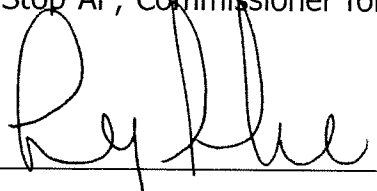

Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

18 September 2006
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited transmitted electronically, on the date indicated below, addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 18 September 2006 Signature: 
Lisa Shimizu
Person Making Deposit